

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-25 were pending in the application. Claims 10, 11, 14, 21 and 24 have been amended. Claims 9, 18, 19 and 20 have been canceled. No claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-17 and 21-25 are now pending and submitted for reconsideration.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner's allowance of claims 1-3, 5-8 and 17 is greatly appreciated.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to for failing to include a description of Figure 4 in the specification and for failing to show every feature as specified in the claims. Applicant has amended the specification to include a brief description of Figure 4 as suggested by the Examiner. In addition, applications have canceled claim 19. Reconsideration and approval of the drawings are respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 14-16 and 18-23 are objected to for informalities. Claim 14 has been amended where appropriate. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections

Claims 9, 14-16, 18-19 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,601,870 ("Suzuki"). Claims 14-15 and 22-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,022,043 ("Harnisch").

Applicant appreciates the indication that claims 10-13 and 20 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 10 and 11 have been rewritten into independent form and Applicant respectfully submits that claims 10, 11 and dependent claims 12-13 are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 14 has been rewritten to include the subject matter of allowable claim 20. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 14 and dependent claims 15, 16, 18, 19 and 21-23 are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,527,063 ("Garner") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,348,339 ("Turner"). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

Claim 24 has been amended to include subject matter from allowable claim 20. For example, claim 24 requires that the "molded plastic body includes a discontinuous periphery." Further, Garner and Turner, taken together or separately, fail to disclose teach or suggest a "discontinuous periphery." Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 24 are respectfully requested.

Claim 25 depends from claim 24 and is allowable therewith, for at least the reasons set forth above, without regard to the further patentable subject matter set forth in this dependent claim.

Conclusion

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are

needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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